News Captioned "Of Spiralling Costs and Broken Hopes"

3374. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Of spiralling costs and broken hopes" appearing in the Economic Times dated May 12, 1991 ;

(b) if so, whether the said report is about the woes of members of housing societies ; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government against unscrupulous management committees of the said housing societies and contractors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report covers the alleged mismanagement in the construction of flats by the Delhi Watch Dealers Cooperative Group Housing Society.

(c) On receipt of complaint, an inquiry under section 55 of Delhi Cooperative Societies Act, 1972 was ordered by Registrar of Cooperative Societies to enquire into the financial condition of the society. As per the inquiry report irregularities have come to notice in the matter of award of contract. Further Inquiry under section 59 of Delhi Cooperative Societies Act to fix responsibility on the persons involved in financial irregularities is being initiated in order to make good the loss caused to the society.

Scientific Projects Sanctioned by Indian Botanical Garden

3375. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENVI RONMENT AND FORESTS be plea sed to state :

(a) the scientific projects sanctioned for Indian Botanical Garden during Sixth and Seventh Plan period ;

(b) the future plan and programme for the expansion of Botanical Survey of India;

(c) whether there is a proposal to set up National Botanical Gardens at Delhi and Karnal ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) The scientific projects sanctioned for Indian Botanic Garden are :—

(I) *During 6th Plan period*

(i) Revision of tribes of the plant families *Arecaceae, Rubiaceae, Caryophyllaceae, Liliaceae* for the Flora of India Project.

(ii) Survey and documentation of the horticultural trees and shrubs growing in the Calcutta Metropolies.

(iii) Introduction and enrichment of the germplasm collections of water lilies, palms, jasmines and bamboos.

(iv) Preparation of the directory of the Botanic Gardens and parks in India and also the history of development of Gardens in India.